UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/452,043	11/30/1999	TED F. RABENKO	36158/NEC/B6	9799

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EXAMINER
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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2667	

DATE MAILED: 12/04/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

		Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary		09/452,043	RABENKO ET AL.
		Examiner	Art Unit
		Kwang B. Yao	2667

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _22 September 2003_.

2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b) ☐ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) _1-35,68-103 and 136_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) _1-35,68-103 and 136_ is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:

      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

    a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in
> section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are
> such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person
> having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the
> manner in which the invention was made.

2.   This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the

claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various

claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any

evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out

the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later

invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c)

and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

3.   Claims 1-4, 6, 8-14, 16-22, 25, 26, 28-29, 31, 32, 35-72, 74, 76-82, 84-90, 93, 94, 96, 97,

99, 100, 103, 136 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wilson (US

6,169,734) in view of Kondo et al. (US 5,130,985).

Wilson discloses an Internet phone set system comprising the following features:

regarding claim 1, as depicted in Fig. 3, a microphone (132) coupled to provide voice data to a

network, a speaker (130) configured to facilitate listening to voice data from the network, a

dialing device (116) coupled to facilitate routing of voice data upon the network, first port (Fig.

2, REF 82) configured to facilitate communication with a first network device; second port (Fig.

2, REF 86) configured to facilitate communication with a second network device. See column 3-6.

Regarding claim 2, Wilson discloses the following features: as depicted in Fig. 2, wherein the first port (82) is configured to facilitate communication of voice data packets with the first network device and the second port (86) is configured to facilitate communication of voice data packets with the second network device (90). See column 3-6.

Regarding claim 3, Wilson discloses the following features: wherein the microphone (Fig. 3, REF 132) and the speaker (Fig. 3, REF 130) at least partially define a handset (Fig. 2, REF 55). See column 3-6.

Regarding claim 4, Wilson discloses the following features: wherein the dialing device (Fig. 2, REF 50) comprises a keypad (Fig. 2, REF 65). See column 3-6.

Regarding claim 8, Wilson discloses the following features: in Fig. 3, a voice engine processor (118) in communication with the network switch, the voice engine processor (118) being configured to digitize and compress voice data from the microphone (132) and to decompress and perform digital to analog conversion upon voice data provided to the speaker (130). See column 3-6.

Regarding claim 9, Wilson discloses the following features: comprising a voice engine processor (118) in communication with the network switch, the voice engine processor being configured to digitize, compress and packetize voice data from the microphone (132) and to depacketize, decompress and perform digital to analog conversion upon voice data provided to the speaker (130). See column 3-6.

Regarding claim 12, Wilson discloses the following features: switch controller having at

least one port (Fig. 2, REF 82) for facilitating electrical communication with a network; and a

voice engine processor (Fig. 3, REF 118) in electrical communication with the switch controller,

the voice processor having a microphone port (Fig. 3, REF 132) for facilitating electrical

communication with a microphone and having a speaker port (Fig. 3, REF 130) or facilitating

electrical communication with a speaker.

Regarding claim 14, wherein the switch controller is configured to route voice data

packets over a network.

Regarding claim 16, wherein the switch controller is configured to route voice data

packets over the Internet.

Regarding claim 20, Wilson discloses the following features: wherein the switch

controller is configured to be compatible with Internet Protocol. See column 3-6.

Regarding claim 21, Wilson discloses the following features: wherein electrical

communication between the switch controller and the voice engine processor (118) is facilitated

via a media independent interface and a microprocessor interface. See column 3-6.

Regarding claim 22, Wilson discloses the following features: wherein the switch

controller comprises two ports (80, 82) for facilitating communication with the network. See

column 3-6.

Regarding claim 25, wherein the voice engine processor further comprises a keypad port

(65) for facilitating communication with a keypad. See column 3-6.

Regarding claim 26, Wilson discloses the following features: wherein the voice engine

processor (118) further comprises a display port (150) for facilitating communication with a

display (71).

Regarding claim 28, Wilson discloses the following features: wherein the voice engine

processor (118) is configured to compress voice communications.

Regarding claim 31, Wilson discloses the following features: wherein the voice engine

processor is configured to provide a desired level of quality of service. See column 3-6.

Regarding claim 32, Wilson discloses the following features: wherein the voice engine

processor is configured to provide signaling for voice traffic. See column 3-6.

Regarding claim 35, Wilson discloses the following features: a network telephone (Fig. 2,

REF 50). See column 3-6.

Wilson does not disclose the following features: regarding claim 1, a prioritization circuit

coupled to apply a first processing priority level to voice data provided by the microphone and a

second processing priority level to non-voice data; regarding claim 6, wherein the prioritization

circuit is defined by a network switch; regarding claim 8, wherein the prioritization circuit is

defined by a network switch; regarding claim 9, the prioritization circuit is defined by a network

switch; regarding claim 10, wherein the prioritization circuit is configured to tag voice data

packets to facilitate prioritization thereof; regarding claim 11, wherein the prioritization circuit is

configured to tag voice data packets to facilitate prioritization thereof and is configured to read

tags on data packets provided thereto by the network to facilitate prioritization thereof; regarding

claim 12, wherein the switch controller is configured to assign a first processing priority level to

voice data and a second processing priority level to non-voice data; regarding claim 13, wherein

the switch controller applies a high processing priority level to voice packet to voice packets;

regarding claim 15, wherein the switch controller is configured to apply prioritization to voice

data packets and to route voice data packets over an Ethernet; regarding claim 17, wherein the

switch controller is configured to apply a first processing priority level to voice data packets

provided by the microphone and coupled to route the voice data packets over a network;

regarding claim 18, wherein the switch controller is configured to tag voice data packets to

facilitate assigning a first processing priority thereof; regarding claim 19,wherein the switch

controller is configured to tag voice data packets to facilitate assigning a first processing priority

thereof and is configured to read tags on data packets provided thereto by the network to

facilitate prioritization thereof; regarding claim 29, wherein the voice engine processor is

configured to compress voice communications using PCM compression; regarding claim 35, a

prioritization circuit led o tag voice data packets with information representative of a priority

thereof to ensure that the voice data packets are given a higher processing priority than non-voice

packets and coupled to read tags associated with packets.

Kondo et al. discloses a speech packet communication system comprising the following

features: regarding claim 1, depicted in Fig. 4, a prioritization circuit (46) coupled to apply a first

processing priority level to voice data provided by the microphone and a second processing

priority level to non-voice data, see column 9, lines 33-42; regarding claim 6, wherein the

prioritization circuit (46) is defined by a network switch; regarding claim 8, wherein the

prioritization circuit (46) is defined by a network switch; regarding claim 9, the prioritization

circuit (46) is defined by a network switch; regarding claim 10, wherein the prioritization circuit

(46) is configured to tag voice data packets (Fig. 10) to facilitate prioritization thereof; regarding

claim 11, wherein the prioritization circuit (46) is configured to tag voice data packets (Fig. 10)

to facilitate prioritization thereof and is configured to read tags on data packets provided thereto

by the network to facilitate prioritization thereof; regarding claim 12, wherein the switch

controller is configured to assign a first processing priority level to voice data and a second

processing priority level to non-voice data, see column 9, lines 33-42 ; regarding claim 13,

wherein the switch controller applies a high processing priority level to voice packet to voice

packets, see column 9, lines 33-42; regarding claim 17, wherein the switch controller is

configured to apply a first processing priority level to voice data packets provided by the

microphone and coupled to route the voice data packets over a network, see column 9, lines 33-

42; regarding claim 18, wherein the switch controller is configured to tag voice data packets to

facilitate assigning a first processing priority thereof, see column 9, lines 33-42; regarding claim

19,wherein the switch controller is configured to tag voice data packets to facilitate assigning a

first processing priority thereof and is configured to read tags on data packets provided thereto

by the network to facilitate prioritization thereof; regarding claim 29, wherein the voice engine

processor is configured to compress voice communications using PCM compression; regarding

claim 35, a prioritization circuit led o tag voice data packets with information representative of a

priority thereof to ensure that the voice data packets are given a higher processing priority than

non-voice packets and coupled to read tags associated with packets. See column 8-10.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of

the invention to modify the system of Wilson, by using the features, as taught by Kondo et al., in

order to provide a low probability that the speech signal will be absent continuously. See Kondo

et al., column 2, lines 53-56.

Claims 36-72, 74, 76-82, 84-90, 93, 94, 96, 97, 99, 100, 103, 136 disclose the similar

limitations as claims 1-4, 6, 8-14, 16-22, 25, 26, 28-29, 31, 32, 35; thus Claims 36-72, 74, 76-82,

84-90, 93, 94, 96, 97, 99, 100, 103, 136 are rejected by the same reasons above.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in
> section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are
> such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person
> having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the
> manner in which the invention was made.

5.   This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the

claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various

claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any

evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out

the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later

invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c)

and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

6.   Claims 5, 7, 15, 23, 24, 27, 33, 73, 75, 83, 91, 92, 95, 101 are rejected under 35

U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wilson (US 6,169,734) in view of Kondo et al. (US

5,130,985) as applied to claims 1, 12, 69, 80 above, and further in view of Shankar et al. (US

6,570,869).

Wilson and Kondo et al. disclose the claimed limitations above. Wilson and Kondo et al.

do not disclose the features of: regarding claim 5, the first port and the second port comprise

Ethernet 10/100 ports; regarding claim 7, wherein the prioritization circuit is defined by an

Ethernet switch; regarding claim 15, wherein the switch controller is configured to route voice

data packets over an **Ethernet**; regarding claim 23, wherein the switch controller comprises two

Ethernet ports for facilitating communication with the network; regarding claim 24, wherein the

switch controller comprises two 10/100 megabit/sec **Ethernet** ports for facilitating

communication with the network; regarding claim 27, the switch controller is configure to be

placed serially into a **Ethernet** transmission medium intermediate a network interface card and a

switch; regarding claim 33; wherein the voice engine processor is configured to provide

signaling for PBX voice traffic. (Emphasis added).

Shankar et al. discloses a communication system comprising the following features:

regarding claim 5, in Fig. 2, the first port and the second port comprise **Ethernet** (218) 10/100

ports; regarding claim 7, wherein the prioritization circuit is defined by an **Ethernet** (218)

switch; regarding claim 15, wherein the switch controller is configured to route voice data

packets over an **Ethernet** (218); regarding claim 23, wherein the switch controller comprises two

Ethernet (218) ports for facilitating communication with the network; regarding claim 24,

wherein the switch controller comprises two 10/100 megabit/sec **Ethernet** (218) ports for

facilitating communication with the network; regarding claim 27, the switch controller is

configure to be placed serially into a **Ethernet** (218) transmission medium intermediate a

network interface card and a switch; regarding claim 33; wherein the voice engine processor is

configured to provide **signaling for PBX** (Fig. 1, REF 100) voice traffic. (Emphasis added).

See column 4, lines 40-44; column 7, lines 19-59. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one

of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the system of Wilson and

Kondo et al., by using the features, as taught by Shankar et al., in order to provide a flexible

solution for integrating with legacy systems. See Shankar et al., column 2, lines 53-55.

Claims 73, 75, 83, 91, 92, 95, 101 discloses the same limitations as claims 5, 7, 23, 24,

27, 33; thus Claims 73, 75, 83, 91, 92, 95, 101 are rejected by the same reasons above.

7.   Claims 30, 34, 98, 102 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Wilson (US 6,169,734) in view of Kondo et al. (US 5,130,985) as applied to claims 12, 80

above, and further in view of Verthein et al. (US 6,487,196).

Wilson and Kondo et al. disclose the claimed limitations above. Wilson and Kondo et al.

do not disclose the features of: regarding claim 30, wherein the voice engine processor is

configured to suppress silence; regarding claim 34, wherein the voice engine processor is

configured to provide echo control; regarding claim 98, wherein the voice engine processor is

configured to suppress silence; regarding claim 102, wherein the voice engine processor is

configured to provide echo control. Verthein et al. discloses a communication system

comprising the following features: regarding claim 30, wherein the voice engine processor is

configured to suppress silence; regarding claim 34, wherein the voice engine processor is

configured to provide echo control; regarding claim 98, wherein the voice engine processor is

configured to suppress silence; regarding claim 102, wherein the voice engine processor is

configured to provide echo control. See column 16, lines 23-25 and 60-64. Therefore, it would

have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the

system of Wilson and Kondo et al., by using the features, as taught by Verthein et al., in order to

provide a better voice quality. See column 3, lines 1-19.

Response to Arguments

8.   Applicant's arguments filed 9/22/03 have been fully considered but they are not

persuasive.

On page 16, regarding claim 1, Applicant argues that Kondo et al. does not disclose the

claimed limitations of applying a first processing priority level to voice data provided by the

microphone and a second processing priority to non-voice data. Examiner respectfully disagrees

with these arguments. Kondo et al. discloses that logic of priority assignment unit 46 in Fig. 6A

assigns a high priority "0" to speech data (claimed voice data), a low priority "1" to silence data

(claimed non-voice data), see column 9, lines 33-42. Therefore, it is believed that Kondo et al.

does disclose the argued features; and it is maintained that the combined reference of Wilson and

Kondo et al. would have been obvious to achieve the claimed invention.

On page 17, first paragraph, regarding claim 12, Applicant argues that Kondo et al. does

not disclose the claimed limitations of wherein the switch controller is configured to assign a

first processing priority level to voice data and a second processing priority level to non-voice

data. Examiner respectfully disagrees with these arguments. Kondo et al. discloses that logic of

priority assignment unit 46 in Fig. 6A assigns a high priority "0" to speech data (claimed voice

data), a low priority "1" to silence data (claimed non-voice data), see column 9, lines 33-42.

Therefore, it is believed that Kondo et al. does disclose the argued features; and it is maintained

that the combined reference of Wilson and Kondo et al. would have been obvious to achieve the

claimed invention.

On page 17, third and fourth paragraph, regarding claim 35, Applicant argues that Kondo

et al. does not disclose the claimed limitations of: a prioritization circuit led o tag voice data

packets with information representative of a priority thereof to ensure that the voice data packets

are given a higher processing priority than non-voice packets and coupled to read tags associated

with packets. Examiner respectfully disagrees with these arguments. Kondo et al. discloses that

logic of priority assignment unit 46 in Fig. 6A assigns a high priority "0" to speech data (claimed

voice data), a low priority "1" to silence data (claimed non-voice data), see column 9, lines 33-

42. Therefore, it is believed that Kondo et al. does disclose the argued features; and it is

maintained that the combined reference of Wilson and Kondo et al. would have been obvious to

achieve the claimed invention.

On page 18, first and second paragraph, regarding claim 68, Applicant argues that Kondo

et al. does not disclose the claimed limitations of: network switch coupled to assign a first

priority level to voice packets and a second priority level to non-voice packets. Examiner

respectfully disagrees with these arguments. Kondo et al. discloses that logic of priority

assignment unit 46 in Fig. 6A assigns a high priority "0" to speech data (claimed voice data), a

low priority "1" to silence data (claimed non-voice data), see column 9, lines 33-42. Therefore,

it is believed that Kondo et al. does disclose the argued features; and it is maintained that the

combined reference of Wilson and Kondo et al. would have been obvious to achieve the claimed

invention.

On page 18, third paragraph, regarding claim 69, Applicant argues that Kondo et al. does

not disclose the claimed limitations of: prioritizing voice data provided by microphone over non-

voice data. Examiner respectfully disagrees with these arguments. Kondo et al. discloses that

logic of priority assignment unit 46 in Fig. 6A assigns a high priority "0" to speech data (claimed

voice data), a low priority "1" to silence data (claimed non-voice data), see column 9, lines 33-

42. Therefore, it is believed that Kondo et al. does disclose the argued features; and it is maintained that the combined reference of Wilson and Kondo et al. would have been obvious to achieve the claimed invention.

On page 19, first and second paragraph, regarding claim 80, Applicant argues that Kondo et al. does not disclose the claimed limitations of: using a switch controller having at least one port to facilitate electrical communication with a network, wherein the switch controller is configured to prioritize processing of voice packets over non-voice packets. Examiner respectfully disagrees with these arguments. Kondo et al. discloses that logic of priority assignment unit 46 in Fig. 6A assigns a high priority "0" to speech data (claimed voice data), a low priority "1" to silence data (claimed non-voice data), see column 9, lines 33-42. Therefore, it is believed that Kondo et al. does disclose the argued features; and it is maintained that the combined reference of Wilson and Kondo et al. would have been obvious to achieve the claimed invention.

On page 19, third and fourth paragraph, regarding claim 103, Applicant argues that Kondo et al. does not disclose the claimed limitations of: tagging voice packets with information representative of a priority thereof to ensure the tagged voice packets are give a higher processing priority than non-voice packets. Examiner respectfully disagrees with these arguments. Kondo et al. discloses that logic of priority assignment unit 46 in Fig. 6A assigns a high priority "0" to speech data (claimed voice data), a low priority "1" to silence data (claimed non-voice data), see column 9, lines 33-42. Therefore, it is believed that Kondo et al. does disclose the argued features; and it is maintained that the combined reference of Wilson and Kondo et al. would have been obvious to achieve the claimed invention.

On page 20, first and second paragraph, regarding claim 136, Applicant argues that

Kondo et al. does not disclose the claimed limitations of: applying a higher prioritization to voice

packets than non-voice packets to ensure that the voice packets are given a higher processing

priority than the non-voice packets. Examiner respectfully disagrees with these arguments.

Kondo et al. discloses that logic of priority assignment unit 46 in Fig. 6A assigns a high priority

"0" to speech data (claimed voice data), a low priority "1" to silence data (claimed non-voice

data), see column 9, lines 33-42. Therefore, it is believed that Kondo et al. does disclose the

argued features; and it is maintained that the combined reference of Wilson and Kondo et al.

would have been obvious to achieve the claimed invention.

Conclusion

9.   **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time

policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO

MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after

the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37

CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing
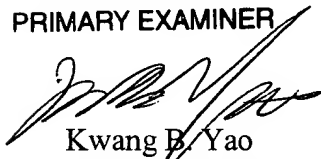
date of this final action.

10.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Kwang B. Yao whose telephone number is 703-308-7583. The

examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Chi H Pham can be reached on 703-305-4378. The fax phone number for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9314.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding

should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

KWANG BIN YAO
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Kwang B. Yao
December 2, 2003